

U.S. Occupations with the Largest Job Decline

1998-2008

(Numbers in thousands of jobs)

Occupation	Employment		Change	
	1998	2008	Number	Percent
Farmers	1,308	1,135	-173	-13%
Sewing machine operators, garment	369	257	-112	-30%
Child care workers, private household	306	209	-97	-32%
Word processors & typists	459	365	-93	-20%
Bookkeeping, accounting & auditing clerks	2,078	1,997	-81	-4%
Cleaners and servants, private household	600	530	-71	-12%
Farmworkers	851	794	-57	-7%
Computer operators, except peripheral equipment	224	170	-54	-24%
Textile draw-out & winding machine operators & tenders	192	141	-50	-26%
Bank tellers	560	529	-31	-5%
Switchboard operators	214	185	-30	-14%
Inspectors, testers & graders, precision	689	667	-22	-3%
Machine tool cutting operators & tenders, metal & plastic	109	88	-22	-20%
Butchers & meatcutters	216	201	-15	-7%
Payroll & timekeeping clerks	172	161	-11	-6%
Peripheral equipment operators	27	17	-10	-38%
Woodworking machine operators & tenders, setters & set-up operators	79	69	-10	-13%
Offset lithographic press operators	63	54	-9	-15%
Fishers	40	31	-9	-23%
Procurement clerks	58	49	-9	-15%
Station installers & repairers, telephone	24	16	-8	-34%
Welfare eligibility workers & interviewers	109	100	-8	-8%
Typesetting & composing machine operators & tenders	13	5	-8	-60%
Drilling & boring machine tool setters & set-up operators, metal & plastic	42	34	-8	-18%
Film strippers, printing	23	15	-8	-33%
Directory assistance operators	23	16	-7	-31%
Housekeepers & butlers	17	10	-7	-42%
Grinding, lapping & buffing machine tool setters & set-up operators, metal & plastic	75	68	-7	-10%
Proofreaders & copy markers	41	34	-7	-17%
Railroad brake, signal & switch operators	14	7	-7	-48%

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Monthly Labor Review," November 1999.